



# Michigan *Office of the Auditor General* **REPORT SUMMARY**

## *Performance Audit*

## *Michigan Technological University*

Report Number:  
33-160-03

Released:  
September 2005

*Michigan Technological University is located in the city of Houghton and offers various programs through its five colleges and schools. The University's vision is to become a national institution of choice. The University as a whole is accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools and the University's colleges and schools are accredited by various accrediting bodies.*

### ***Audit Objective:***

To assess the effectiveness of the University's monitoring of academic and related programs provided to students.

### ***Audit Conclusion:***

We concluded that the University was generally effective in its monitoring of academic and related programs provided to students.

### ***Noteworthy Accomplishments:***

The University offers a unique, proactive educational experience to undergraduates through its Enterprise Program. The Enterprise Program gives teams of students the opportunity to work in a business-like setting to solve problems supplied by industry.

### ***Reportable Conditions:***

The University needs to improve its monitoring of repetitive course enrollments (Finding 1).

The University did not complete periodic reviews of academic programs (Finding 2).

The University had not assimilated and evaluated data related to student retention (Finding 3).

The University had not established uniform departmental academic advising practices designed to help undergraduate students progress toward completion of degree programs (Finding 4).

The University had not identified the cause for students rating faculty teaching performance at below satisfactory levels or developed corrective action plans as appropriate (Finding 5).

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### ***Audit Objective:***

To assess the effectiveness and efficiency of the University's use of resources allocated to support academic and related programs.

***Audit Conclusion:***

We concluded that the University was generally effective and efficient in its use of resources allocated to support academic and related programs.

***Noteworthy Accomplishments:***

The University is a national leader in both invention disclosures and licenses executed per \$10 million in research expenditures. In 2002, the University joined the newly formed Michigan Tech EnterPrise SmartZone. The purpose of the Michigan Tech EnterPrise SmartZone is to foster the creation of high-tech jobs and economic development through the commercialization of intellectual properties of State-supported universities. In 2005, one of the Michigan Tech EnterPrise SmartZone companies was named SmartZone Company of the Year.

***Reportable Conditions:***

The University needs to continue consolidating printing services and centralizing the purchase of printing equipment, copying machines, and paper products (Finding 6).

The University had not developed a formal policy addressing minimum class enrollment standards and requirements for exceptions (Finding 7).

The University did not appropriately allocate administrative costs to its auxiliary activities (Finding 8).

The University did not institute and enforce sabbatical leave requirements (Finding 9).

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***Agency Response:***

Our audit report contains 9 findings and 9 corresponding recommendations. The University's preliminary response indicated that it agrees with all 9 recommendations.

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A copy of the full report can be  
obtained by calling 517.334.8050  
or by visiting our Web site at:  
<http://audgen.michigan.gov>



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